some scribbled notes which indicate that he did make some observations on the progress of the life history of *turfosalis.* He mentioned that pairing took place on July 21st, and ova appeared in July 23rd onwards, whilst the larvae appeared on July 30th. These would be from some *turfosalis* taken at Whixall Moss, Shropshire, on July 17th, 1953, when I was with him. Whixall Moss is one of the various peat mosses in the North-west where *turfosalis* is abundant in July and August. The foodplant, incidentally, is the Cross-leaved Heath, or Bog Heath, *Erica tetralix,* a specimen of which is included in the glass-topped box referred to above. I hope this information will be of use to readers who may like to try to find the caterpillars and to rear *turfosalis* for themselves. — E. H. FIELDING (President, Manchester Entomological Society), 83b Hale Road, Hale, Altrincham, Cheshire, 5.ix.1978.

SOME NEW FOREST LEPIDOPTERA AND ODONATA IN 1978. — I visited the New Forest from 21st June to 5th July, 1978 staying at Brockenhurst and concentrating on the southern half of he forest. It was slightly early, especially in this generally late season, for certain of the butterflies and this, together with the rather mixed weather, resulted in the absence of some species which may normally have been expected.

The only butterflies recorded in reasonable numbers and widespread localities were Speckled Wood (*Pararge aegeria* L.), Meadow Brown (*Maniola jurtina* L.), Small Heath (*Coenonympha pamphilus* L.) and Large Skipper (*Ochlodes venata* B. & G.). A few "whites" and Small Tortoiseshells (*Aglais urticae* L.) were seen, mainly in village gardens, and a single male Brimstone (*Gonepteryx rhamni* L.) was noted at Rowbarrow. A lone Small Pearl-bordered (*Boloria selene* D. & S.) in New Copse Inclosure was the sole representative of the fritillaries. Silver-studded Blues (*Plebejus argus* L.) did not putin an appearance until 3rd July, when a male was seen at Hincheslea Bog, but a favourite locality at Bishop's Dyke produced a few on the following day. This site has suffered from the ravages of fire but the species was still present though in reduced numbers.

Day-flying moths were equally elusive with the exception of the Bordered White (*Bupalus piniaria* L.), which was common in the pine woods even flying in the rain. Heathland species encountered, were the Grass Wave (*Perconia strigillaria* Hb.), Common Heath (*Ematurga atomaria* L.) and Clouded Buff (*Diacrisia sannio* L.); the last-named only on Black Down (east of the railway) and at Bishop's Dyke, whilst some reddish brown moths dashing madly around at the latter locality were surely male Fox Moths (*Macrothylacia rubi* L.). These were also in evidence at Trenley Lawn. The Hollands Wood toilet blocks produced a Sharp-angled Peacock (*Semiothisa alternaria* Hb.) and one of the hotel bathrooms at Brockenhurst contributed a Lilac Beauty (*Apeira syringaria* L.). An evening stroll around a bushy area in the village added several Brimstone (*Opisthograptis luteolata* L.) and a

Yellow Shell (*Camptogramma bilineata* L.), the latter also being recorded at Pig Bush. A search of the wild rose bushes on the outskirts of Brockenhurst revealed some Gold-tail larvae (*Euproctis similis* Fuessly) and the only Cinnabar (*Tyria jacobaeae* L.) was flying in the village. To complete the moths, an individual glimpsed briefly in Pignal Inclosure was almost certainly a White Ermine (*Spilosoma lubricipeda* L.) although the Muslin (*Diaphora mendica* Clerk) was a possibility.

I also noted any dragonflies seen and the following list was much reduced by weather conditions and by the fact that no ponds were visited. The species seen, in order of abundance, were: *Orthetrum coerulescens* F., *Pyrrhosoma nymphula* Sulzer, *Agrion virgo* L., *Enallagma cyathigerum* Charpentier, *Cordulegaster boltonii* Donovan, *Sympetrum striolatum* Charpentier, *Platycnemis pennipes* Pallas and *Ceriagrion tenellum* de Villiers with only one sighting of each of the last two. *C. tenellum,* which is a protected species in the forest, was on bog myrtle near an overgrow stream and the delicate *P. pennipes* in a wood east of Brockenhurst well away from water.On one occasion a specimen of the spectacular *C. boltonii* settled on a piece of wood in a forest ride, and was watched at close range for several minutes. *O. coerulescens* was easily the most numerous species, often alighting on the heather after making short flights. Nearly all were females. It is highly probable that *Coenagrion puella* L. occurs in the same area at Bishop's Dyke as *E. cyathigerum,* but I saw only the latter for certain. As already mentioned, excellent localities for dragonflies like Sowley Pond and Eyeworth Pond were not visited on this occasion and, undoubtedly, several species would have been added from these different habitats. — G. Summers, 23 West Close, Stafford ST16 3TG.

Hummingbird Hawkmoth (Macroglossum stellatarum L.) ovipositing on the Dorset Coast, August 1978. — On 10th August, a female was observed at 6 p.m. ovipositing whilst hovering over its selected foodplant, grasping the foliage with its legs, before quickly and accurately bending its abdomen to deposit a single green, typical Sphingid ovum. The female was observed for several minutes and five ova were located, three being laid on Wild Madder (*Rubia peregrina*), one on Heath Bedstraw (*Galium saxatile*) and the fifth on Sphagnum moss, close to its food source. The captive larvae are feeding well on Common Cleavers (*Galium aparine*). — K. J. Willmott, 34 Daybrook Road, Merton Park, London, SW19 3DH.

Mortality of Pieris brassicae L. race cheiranthi Hubn. when reared on Brassicae. — I was interested to read Anthony Valletta's note on *cheiranthi* in the March *Record.* I would not however agree with his conclusion that *"P. cheiranthi* may also do well on *Cruciferae".* From his own data, it clearly did *not* do well, having a high larval and pupal mortality. What is so interesting, however, is that some 15 years after my own experiences with *cheiranthi,* the larvae still show the same high mortality when fed *Brassicae* species